

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/JP2003/014470



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference H0217700	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/JP2003/014470	International filing date (day/month/year) 13 November 2003 (13.11.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 26 November 2002 (26.11.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A44B 18/00		
Applicant YKK CORPORATION		

1.	This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
3.	This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4.	This report contains indications relating to the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 17 March 2004 (17.03.2004)	Date of completion of this report 07 July 2004 (07.07.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/014470

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:

☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))

☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)

☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

☒ The international application as originally filed/furnished

☐ the description:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ the drawings:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP 03/14470

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-12	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

- Document 1: JP 2002-253607 A (Daio Paper Corp.), 10 September 2002
- Document 2: JP 2-238707 A (Toshiba Corp.), 21 September 1990
- Document 3: JP 2-226023 A (Toshiba Corp.), 7 September 1990
- Document 4: US 4884323 A (George A. Provost), 5 December 1989
- Document 5: JP 6-103 A (Kabushiki Kaisha Seagel), 11 January 1994

The inventions described in claims 1 to 8, 11, and 12 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 3.

Document 1 discloses a feature wherein fibrous surface fasteners comprising a mesh-type unit having an interval between warp threads of 0.7 to 1.3 mm, an interval between weft threads of 1.5 to 1.8 mm, and a basis weight of 25.0 to 34.0 g/m² are measured using a specified noise-measuring method, and the item having the least unpleasant peel-off sound is utilized.

Further, documents 2 and 3 disclose the observation of acoustic spectra on which Fourier transform has been performed as a method for measuring noise.

Moreover, the question of what sort of method to adopt as a noise-measuring method is merely a feature fittingly determined at the discretion of a person skilled in the art, and thus, in order to adopt a fibrous surface fastener having a peel-off sound that is not unpleasant as the fibrous surface fastener disclosed in document 1, a person skilled in the art could easily conceive of optimizing the surface fastener by observing acoustic spectra that have undergone Fourier transform, as disclosed in documents 2 and 3.

The invention described in claim 9 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 3 and document 4.

Document 4 discloses the provision of a gap-forming means for forming a gap between a surface fastener base material and an item on which the fastener is to be mounted.

The invention described in claim 10 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 3 and document 5.

Document 5 discloses the provision of a damping means between the rear surface of a base part on which the locking elements of a surface fastener stand and an item on which the fastener is to be mounted.